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LENIN'S BIRTH CENTENARY IN DRVN

THE Secretariat of the Viet Nam Workers' Party Central Committee has issued instructions on the celebration throughout the country of V.I. Lenin's birth centenary.

On April 22, 1970, the instructions said "together with the whole progressive mankind, our Party and people will solemnly celebrate the centenary of the birth of Vladimir Ilych Lenin, the leader of genius and great teacher of the working class and labouring people all over the world."

After recalling the April 1969 resolution of the Party Political Bureau on the preparations for Lenin's birthday this year, the Secretariat called for a month of activities in honour of this grand date.

These activities will help the cadres and members of the Party and the people get a deeper knowledge of Lenin's life, work and teachings, a clearer realization of the creative application by the Viet Nam Workers' Party of Marxist-Leninist principles to the specific conditions of the Vietnamese revolution with its judicious revolutionary strategic lines and tactics in the people's national democratic revolution and socialist revolution, in armed struggle, in the building of the Party and people's power, which have led the Vietnamese revolution to overcome all trials and from one victory to another. The whole people will carry forward the great cause of Lenin, resolutely comply with the last wishes of President Ho Chi Minh, persevere in, and step up, the resistance to US aggression till final victory and fulfil the DRVN 1970 State plan.

News on the celebration of Lenin's birth centenary will be given in our next issue.

South Viet Nam

From the Night of March 31 to April 2, 1970

THE P.L.A.F. ATTACKED OVER 350 ENEMY BASES AND POSITIONS:

— The Airbase at Da Nang and Naval Base at Chu Lai, Cam Ranh and Qui Nhon.

— 12 Army Corps, Division and Brigade HQs.

The Enemy Took Over 600 Casualties (Including a US General Killed).

"THE FRIENDSHIP BETWEEN CAMBODIA AND FRATERNAL VIET NAM WILL CONSTANTLY BLOOM"

Samdech NORODOM SIHANOUK Writes to Premier PHAM VAN DONG

Samdech Norodom Sihanouk, Head of State of Cambodia, sent on March 26 the following message to Premier Pham Van Dong:

"IN the name of the Khmer people and of the National United Front of Kampuchea and in my own name, I would like to express to the government and the valiant people of the Democratic Republic of Viet Nam our warmest gratitude for the March 25, 1970 statement in which your government declared that it fully supported the five-point proclamation issued on March 23, 1970, by the Head of the Khmer State, and that it resolutely backed the Khmer people's struggle against the US imperialists and their lackeys and for the Khmer people's sacred national rights until final victory.

"I express my fraternal gratitude to Your Excellency for the fact that on behalf of your government and the heroic Vietnamese people, you quite recently formally assured me that, after the common victory of our three peoples of Indo-China over our common imperialist enemy and its valets, Viet Nam will strictly and always respect Cambodia's independence, sovereignty, territorial integrity within its existing frontiers and the regime of Cambodia.

"I am convinced that on this basis of intangible and mutual respect, the friendship between Cambodia and fraternal Viet Nam will constantly bloom, the future of our two peoples will be bright, and social, cultural and economic co-operation between them will develop harmoniously for their greater good and the greater good of our Indo-China and this area.

"In this grave hour when US imperialism, served by its lackeys, is plundering a part of Viet Nam, a part of Laos and my motherland, Cambodia, the Khmer, Vietnamese and Lao peoples are closing their ranks and strengthening their determination to fight US imperialism and its lackeys and win victory over them.

"The US imperialists and their valets have performed this 'wonderful feat' bringing together and cementing forever the solidarity of our three peoples into a united front for the liberation, honour and happiness of our Indo-China."

These women guerillas of N. village (Northern Quang Tri province) have downed many US planes

Survey of U.S. Neo-Colonialism :

II — Economic Profile

VO NHAN TRI

(Continued)

2 — EXPORTATION OF U.S. PRIVATE CAPITALS

"If the aid programs were discontinued, private investments might be a waste, because it would not be safe enough for you to make them."

This was what the US Secretary of Commerce said to American businessmen (1). It was an unequivocal statement regarding the relation between "aid" and investment of US private capitals in the Third World.

The long-term investments include direct private investments and portfolio investments. The former which make up the overwhelming majority of all private investments, rose from 5.58 billion dollars in 1950 to 16.94 billion in 1967, or an increase of more than three times. Owing to their importance, we shall examine their distribution per regions and per economic sectors :

US Direct Private Investments in the Third World (end of the year)

Millions of dollars

REGIONS	1967 (estimations)						
	Total	Mines and metallurgy	Petrol	Manufacturing industries	Public services	Commerce	Other industries
All regions (total) out of which :	59,267	4,810	17,410	24,124	2,387	4,995	5,541
1. Latin American Republics	10,313	1,218	2,917	3,301	614	1,207	956
Other countries of the Western hemisphere	1,608						
2. Africa (SAR excluded)	1,610	299	1,080	66	3	60	93
3. Asia (Japan excluded)	3,414	43	2,599	562	74	244	

Source : *Survey of Current Business* No. 10 1968

N.B. — As some items are not important enough to be mentioned here (less than 500,000 dollars) or included in "other industries," the totals of columns do not necessarily tally.

The above-mentioned figures testify to the great importance of Latin America in the total amount of US direct private investments, followed, far behind, by Asia (Japan excluded) and by Africa (South African Republic excluded) (2).

In the Latin American Republics, these investments are directed first towards the extractive industries (mines and oil) then manufacturing industries : respectively 4,135 million dollars and 3,301 million out of a total of 10,313 million in 1967.

In Asia (Middle East and Far East) most of these investments go to oil extraction and mines : 2,642 million dollars out of a total of 3,414 million. It is the same in Africa : 1,379 million dollars invested in extractive industries out of a total of 1,610 million.

It is clear that US direct private investments are aimed first at raking off raw materials, chiefly strategic materials from countries of the Third World. The latter have always been supplying raw materials to American industries. Their integration into US foreign trade as sources of supply of raw materials brings them under the permanent dependence and sway of big US monopolies. The economic and consequently political control of foreign sources of raw materials is of vital importance for US industrial monopoly. For in such American industries as steel, aluminum and oil, to lose control of sources of raw materials is also to lose supervision of the market and prices, thus virtually endangering the huge investments made in the finished goods manufacturing industries. Those foreign sources of raw materials are much more an asset than prospective profits : they are the life insurance of the monopolies in the US.

US direct private investments in the Third World also aim at the full exploitation of local manpower : an "optimal" combination between US modern or ultra-modern technique and the starvation wages paid to native workers. Thus in the most up-to-date American electronic works in South Korea for instance, the monthly wages of a worker do not exceed 15 US dollars, which as the American economist V. Perlo has reckoned, makes it possible to obtain "a rate of surplus-value over 1,000 per cent" (3).

Direct US private investments are also aimed at securing overseas outlets. But this is already too well-known to dwell upon.

The profits derived from these investments, which are definitely underestimated, are tremendous. First of all, the rate of profit yielded by these investments in countries of the Third World roughly doubles that obtaining in develop countries between 1960 and 1966.

However, it would be more interesting to study the relation between the annual increase (or net value) of direct US private investments in the Third World, plus the profit re-invested on the spot on the one hand and the incomes earned by the same investments (dividends + interests + profits of foreign branches, after local taxation, but before US taxation) on the other. Asia result, according to the data of the *Survey of Current Business*, from 1960 to 1966, the annual export of US direct private capitals plus profits re-invested on the spot (5,536 million dollars in all) are by far inferior to the incomes on these capitals remitted to the US (13,848 million). The tribute exacted by the American investors from the Third World reached 8,312 million dollars from 1960 to 1966. If one excludes on-the-spot re-invested profits, that is if one considers only the really new flow of direct investments from the US (3,151 million dollars) on the one hand and US remitted incomes (13,848 million) on the other, it runs to 10,697 million dollars, a figure still far below reality, particularly because here we take into consideration official transfers only.

The countries of Latin America alone received "from 1965 to 1968 1.1 billion dollars in capitals and paid, 5.4 billion of profits (which were transferred to the US-*Ed.*) or a negative balance of 4.3 billion dollars, which is considerable" (4). Needless to say that such a drain of foreign exchange which weighs heavily on the balance of payments of the countries of the Third World and curbs a great deal their possibilities of domestic accumulation is catastrophic for them.

The logic of the anti neo-colonialist struggle demands therefore nationalization of US private capitals, thus putting an end to the above-mentioned loss of surplus value and, in general, to the economic and political control of the US over countries of the Third World.

3 — USA – THIRD WORLD TRADE

In his inauguration address on Jan. 20, 1953, President D.Eisenhower said :

"For all our material might, even we need markets in the world for the surpluses of our farms and our factories. Equally, we need for these same farms and factories vital materials and products of distant lands..."

The latter sentence of that candid statement unquestionably referred to the countries of the Third World.

Regarding the latter, the US monopolies try, with the efficient help of their government, to maintain them as outlets and sources of supply of raw materials, and chiefly to impose on them unequal trade agreements as basis for non-equivalent exchange.

In order to grasp the importance of US exports to the Third World, we think we must add to the value of US exports proper, that of the production turned out by direct US investments in countries of the Third World, and also that of production of US firms established in other developed capitalist countries exporters to the Third World. One can see that the outlets of the Third World bought for instance in 1966 from 15 to 18 per cent of total US production, which, according to a French economist, is quite important.

Here are some figures on US exports and imports to and from the Third World in 1968 :

Items	Exports	Imports
	Million dollars	Million dollars
— *Total*	34,062.8 (a)	33,226.3
of which : the Third World	10,771.3	8,839.6
— *Latin America* (South America and South of North America)	5,327.2	5,114.9
— *Asia* (Japan excluded)	4,629.8	2,856.9
— *Africa* (SAR excluded)	814.3	867.8

Source : *Survey of Current Business* No 9. 1964

(a) Not including armaments and war materials.

(To be continued)

(1) *New York Times*, Dec. 5. 1965.

(2) Here, mention is made of Asia without Japan, and of Africa without the South African Republic.

(3) *Political Affairs*, December 1969, p. 60.

(4) *Le Monde*, Paris, weekly paper.

THE 3,336th U.S. PLANE DOWNED IN NORTH VIET NAM

A RF-4C *Phantom* reconnaissance plane was grounded on March 30, 1970 in Quang Binh province, bringing to **3,336** the total of US planes knocked out of North Viet Nam skies since August 5, 1964, the beginning of US escalation.

FRESH AMERICAN CRIMINAL ACT

THE Nixon administration has once more acted in contravention of its own predecessor's solemn declaration on November 1st, 1968 on the unconditional ending of all bombardments against the DRVN, said a special communiqué issued on March 31 by the DRVN Commission for Investigation of the US Imperialists' War Crimes in Viet Nam.

The communiqué said that on March 27 and 28, 1970, more than 40 sorties of US tactical jets including *Thunderchief* and *Phantom* were flown in 6 waves (12.56 hrs, 13.15 hrs, 13.37 hrs, 15.45 hrs, 15 50 hrs on March 27 and 12.35 hrs on March 28) and wantonly rained about 100 bombs and fire numerous rockets and missiles on populous areas in Noong De — Muong Xen in Ky Son district, Nghe An province, hard by the 20th parallel. As a result, 30 civilians were killed or wounded, a school was demolished and many dwellings burnt down.

The DRVN Commission strongly condemned this new crime of the Nixon administration.

SCHOOL FOR THE BLIND OPENS

A Braille school for the blind has been opened in Hanoi under the sponsorship of the Viet Nam Association of the Blind.

The school is named after Nguyen Dinh Chieu, a blind patriotic poet who lived towards the end of the past century. It is to afford education of the first degree (from the first to the third form of general education) to the blind. The school is being attended by 50 blind in Hanoi, most of them members of handicraft cooperatives. All the eight teachers in charge of the four classes are also the blind who have completed general or higher education.

The Viet Nam Association of Blind which was founded less than a year ago undertakes to raise the cultural standards of the blind to make possible their increasing part in production and social activities, in line with President Ho Chi Minh's recommendation that the blind "though invalid should not be left incapacitated."

Shopping at Cam Duong township in Lao Cai province

LAO CAI

Travel Notes

(Lao Cai is a town located on the bank of the Red River, near the Chinese border)

I revisited Lao Cai after a long interval. I hardly recognize the province and its capital (of the same name).

From the window of my room, I could sweep the whole town : on the one hand, the administrative and business district with its red roofs longing the river bank of green cabbage fields ; on the other, the industrial centre, Coc Leu, bristling with new buildings and smoking chimneys.

The host who gave me shelter showed me the chinaware factory which, as he said, just turned out its first ware which were "as good as those of the Hai Duong mill." With his finger he also pointed to me other enterprises : the soap factory, the paper mill, the sugar refinery, the distillery, the tea factory ; and further, the saw-mill, the pharmaceutical product laboratories, the engineering and mechanical repair workshops, etc.

Surprisingly enough, I learnt that all these enterprises had been built in the thick of the fight against the US war of destruction and with the sole efforts and means of the local inhabitants.

I could not help remembering that the Coc Leu I had known before 1945, under the colonialists' rule, had been but a vast gambling house, a big opium den and an important contraband centre. Day and night, it had been subjected to the hurly-burly of that immoral life with such vices as dupery, theft, prostitution, banditry, murder. Today Coc Leu is still far from being an important industrial centre but there is nothing left of that past and its present healthy development opens up a bright prospect for the future.

DURING my short stay at Lao Cai, I had the opportunity of scouring some areas in the province. I saw the TD-68 hydro-power station, the biggest in the locality. The works saw the light of day in the midst of the resistance to US air raids and thanks to the joint efforts of various nationalities. Though still of small size, it was capable. I was told, of supplying electricity to all administrative and military services and major economic establishments in the province as things stand. I had chiefly the pleasant surprise to find that its turbines were Vietnamese made.

But it was not the only one of its kind at Lao Cai. I saw on a map the emplacement of 19 others, smaller of course, recently built by the local population with government technical help (not including the thermo-power stations run by the central administration).

"Electric current brings us the light of the Party" said the local folk. They told me how they and their fellow-countrymen — of Meo, Dzao, Tay, Nung, Nhang, etc. nationalities — were moved to tears the day when the first time they enjoyed that miracle of science. In fact, to our highlanders it was a miracle. Now, they cannot only repel that oppressive darkness of night in the mountains but also lighten their daily toil since, in many places, small electric machines already help them husk rice, grind maize and saw wood.

I tried to fancy the miracle which had been wrought. To have such electric stations built by a scattered population, accustomed to living an autarkic life and ignoring all modern techniques (many of them had just done away with illiteracy), is a most daring thing. I again saw in my mind's eye the former Lao Cai. Under colonial rule, the whole province had but two "match-box" shape electric stations — one thermo-power and the other hydro-power — of twenty-five kilowatts each. One was built at the provincial capital and the other at Sa Pa health resort for the exclusive use of the French colonists, and administrators and Vietnamese bourgeois.

OTHER surprises were in store for me during my visit to Lao Cai. In the resistance war against the French colonialists, I had had the opportunity of climbing the mountains in the province. There were but bad jungle tracks. Dead tired, I had to halt now at Muong Khuong, nicknamed "Gate to Heaven," now at the "Wind Pass" or at the "Cloud Pass," poetic names but which gave you fear. Sometimes I was obliged, for the home trip, to let my body slide, so steep was the slope—as was the case with the Bao Thang Mountain Pass.

Today, all this is but things of the past. There are good roads which lead you to the remotest villages of Bac Ha, Xi Ma Cai, Bat Xat, etc. passing through the above-mentioned localities or skirting them. I drove on one of these roads and got impressions had to express. Many a time I met groups of young Meos or Tays of both sexes busily mending a road section while singing, or couples of highlanders riding pillion to the market on the "high road hacked out by the Party" as they said to one another.

My attention was chiefly drawn to the soya fields bordering on both sides of the road, in more or less flat areas, not because they had something characteristic which distinguished them from those in the delta, but because here the soya—this is another miracle — radically supplanted the opium poppies which were the main cultivation in the province under French colonialism.

We must say that the growing of opium poppies at that time was, if not compulsory, at least greatly encouraged, not for the good of the local population. Instead of making fortune, the growers had known a lot of disappointment, trouble and vexations. They had to pay exorbitant taxes to the colonial administration and local tyrants, heavy fines for belated deliveries or shortages. They were subject to imprisonment or tortures on mere denunciations, true or false, of contraband transactions, constant threats by bandits and pirates, let alone degeneracy of race due to the drug to which virtually all growers were addicted.

I visited one day the fields in Bac Ha district in the company of a local leading cadre. A tractor was making deep furrows by turning up big dark brown clods.

"Look, you cannot imagine that formerly here was the habitat of opium poppy," said the cadre. "At present we are looking forward to reaping a new soya crop. We harvested an abundant one sometime previously."

We were heartily welcomed by the inhabitants of a village who, after the usual greetings, talked about soya.

(Continued page 7)

Cambodians Demonstrate Against Pro-U.S. Extreme Rightists

DEMONSTRATIONS have taken place in Kompong Cham, Kampot and many other provinces of Cambodia against the US - backed extreme rightists and in support of Samdech Head of State Norodom Sihanouk, *Phnom Penh Radio* said.

In Kompong Cham on March 26, it is reported that about 600 demonstrators "sacked the city courthouse and the government mansion and set fire to official documents" and "then requisitioned trucks and drove toward Phnom Penh."

On March 29, *AP* said that last weekend the supporters of Samdech Norodom Sihanouk "staged simultaneous demonstrations in at least three towns in Camdodia," and on the same day militants in Thnal Bat town, 60 kilometers south of Phnom Penh, "streamed across a road bearing Samdech Norodom Sihanouk's pictures."

AP also reported that the workers at Prakek rubber plantation in Kompong Cham province had gone on strike in support of the demonstrators.

On March 28 the workers at Prek Kak plantation, 110 kilometers northwest of Phnom Penh, held armed parades on plantation grounds. The demonstrators also seized 12 plantation trucks, *AFP* reported.

On the same day, 18,000 workers at Chup rubber plantation staged a demonstration against the US-backed extreme rightists.

After visiting Kompong Cham province, the *Sunday Times* correspondent wrote that for all prohibitive measures by the new rulers many photos of Samdech Norodom Sihanouk were on display. According to him, thousands of people paraded through many streets of the province capital demanding Samdech Norodom Sihanouk's return to power.

Reuter said that Kompong Cham was now a ghost town; Cambodian troops patrolled in its deserted streets without bothering to put down Sihanouk's pictures displayed in front of dwelling houses.

BBC announced that the main roads to Phnom Penh were guarded by Lon Nol's troops and international airports in Cambodia were still closed. Pro-US authorities decided to set up a "complementary force" with civilians from 18 to 45 years of age.

The US-backed extreme rightists in Cambodia have strengthened also their collusion with the reactionary "Khmer Serei" (Free Khmer) now in South Viet Nam and Thailand.

The paper *Tin Sang* in Saigon revealed that Son Ngoc Thanh, head of the "Khmer Serei," and other Cambodian traitors maintained by the US in Thailand were preparing to return to Phnom Penh to take part in the government.

According to *AKP* on March 26, Lon Nol has ordered the release of 265 reactionaries who had been jailed by Head of State Norodom Sihanouk as US agents.

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ON April 1, *Viet Nam News Agency* was authorized to issue the following statement:

"In face of widespread actions by the Khmer people against it, the Lon Nol — Sirik Matak clique spread charges that the Vietnamese had 'instigated and directed pro-Sihanouk demonstrations' in Cambodia, and that 'North Viet Nam and the Viet Cong had attacked 6 Cambodian frontier provinces.'

"This move was only aimed at misrepresenting the Cambodian people's just struggle and covering up the coup group's bloody suppression of Khmer patriots. It also aimed at undermining the militant solidarity among the Indochinese peoples now fighting against their common enemy, US imperialism, whitewashing the armed intervention and aggression by the US and its lackeys against Cambodia, and US use of Cambodian territory against the Vietnamese people."

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IN a news dispatch from Phnom Penh on March 31, *AP* also reported that the demonstrators in Cambodia were supporters of Head of State Norodom Sihanouk, and not VC elements. In another dispatch, the same agency said that a number of units of the Cambodian Royal Army had shown opposition to the coup d'état and support to the Cambodian Head of State.

"THE LON NOL GOVERNMENT IS AN ANTI-NATIONAL AND ANTI-POPULAR ONE"

Says Samdech Norodom Sihanouk

SAMDECH Norodom Sihanouk, Head of State of Cambodia, sent on March 24 a message to peoples and governments friendly to the Khmer people.

The message reads:

"I have the honour to draw your high attention both to my statement issued on March 20, 1970, which pointed out that my 'removal' from the position of Head of State of Cambodia by the Phnom Penh Parliament was absolutely illegal and anti-constitutional, and to my solemn declaration addressed to the Cambodian nation on March 23, 1970, announcing the dissolution of this Parliament and the Government of General Lon Nol by the Head of State, the forthcoming establishment of a new National Union Government and of a Consultative Assembly, and the creation of a National Liberation Army and the setting up of a National United Front of Campuchea (Cambodia).

"These new institutions belong to the progressive and anti-imperialist Cambodian people who make up the great majority of the Khmer nation.

"They are the basis for organising a nation-wide resistance in my country to US imperialism and to the domination over the Khmer people and the life of the Khmer nation by the pro-imperialist fascist reactionaries. They are the basis for launching a widespread movement both at home and abroad in the near future so as to, on the one hand, re-establish constitutional legality and thereby set up in our country a genuine people's power to which I will tender without fail my resignation and which will appoint a new Head of State of Cambodia, and, on the other, help hasten the defeat of US imperialism, the responsible for the troubles, crises, calamities and misery of the three countries and peoples of Indo-China.

"I appeal to all the governments and peoples friendly to the Cambodian people in particular and to the peoples of Indo-China in general to render unequivocal support to our struggle for the liberation of our three countries from the intolerable aggression, interference and occupation by the US neo-colonialist imperialists.

"The US neo-colonialist imperialists were the first to recognize de jure *the anti-constitutional and anti-popular Lon Nol regime, thereby indicating unmistakably that they were the suppliers of funds, if not the instigators, of the March 18 coup d'état in Phnom Penh.*

"As everybody knows, none of the military governments of Thieu-Ky in Saigon, Kittikachorn in Bangkok, Chiang Kai-shek in Taiwan (an island belonging to the People's Republic of China), Pak Jung Hi in Seoul, has a popular, democratic or constitutional basis. They keep body and soul together solely by relying on the imperialists and, consequently, they can only serve the interests of these imperialists to the detriment of the interests of their own nations and of the freedom and dignity of their peoples.

"The Lon Nol government is not different from the above-mentioned governments which are known in the world as anti-national and anti-popular.

"I am sure that the friendly powers will not recognize such governments and regimes because I know that they respect their own peoples. The peoples of these powers will certainly support the peoples who are oppressed by the imperialists and their lackeys, and who aspire to dignity and genuine independence."

Samdech Norodom Sihanouk requested the governments and peoples friendly to the Khmer people to give their support and diplomatic recognition of the National United Front of Kampuchea *"while drawing their attention to the consequences if they make any diplomatic or political decision favourable to the usurpers, a decision which can only most unfortunately damage the relations between them and the future progressive and people's Cambodia."*

DRVN AND RSVN MISSIONS IN PHNOM PENH SUSPEND THEIR ACTIVITIES

ON account of the present tension in Cambodia and the frantic anti-Viet Nam campaign in Phnom Penh and in a number of provinces in Cambodia, the DRVN government decided to temporarily suspend all activities of its Embassy, of the Commercial Bureau attached to the Embassy and of the *Viet Nam News Agency* Bureau in Phnom Penh and so temporarily recall their heads and staffs. On March 28 the latter arrived in Hanoi.

The Republic of South Viet Nam Provisional Revolutionary Government has also temporarily withdrawn the heads and staffs of its Embassy and of the *Giai Phong Press Agency* in Phnom Penh.

ANTI-VIETNAMESE CAMPAIGN IN CAMBODIA DENOUNCED

IN a statement issued on March 29, the spokesman for the DRVN Foreign Ministry strongly protested against the hostile acts of the Lon Nol — Sirik Matak clique against Vietnamese residents in Cambodia.

The statement denounced that after ransacking the DRVN aad RSVN Embassies, the saboteurs had broken into places of worship, shops and houses of Vietnamese residents in Phnom Penh, beating and plundering them, inflicting heavy losses on Vietnamese nationals.

It also revealed that on March 18, 1970, the Cambodian authorities ordered their police chief to crack down on Vietnamese residents in Cambodia and then, in the wake of this, acts of violence and looting took place in many localities against Vietnamese residents. More serious still, on March 27, 1970 the Cambodian authorities arbitrarily arrested and interrogated many of them, falsely charging them with having participated in demonstrations of Khmers against the Lon Nol — Sirik Matak clique. On this occasion, a number of newspapers and *Phnom Penh Radio* tried to distort the truth in an attempt to sow enmity between the Khmer and Vietnamese peoples.

"The aforesaid provocative acts of the Lon Nol — Sirik Matak clique," the statement said, "were obviously aimed at undermining the time-honoured solidarity between the Khmer and Vietnamese peoples, sabotaging the struggle of the two peoples against their common enemy — US imperialism — to defend their national rights, and also at covering up US intervention in the Kingdom of Cambodia. It was a flagrant violation of elementary international law and a serious challenge to the Vietnamese people and the Khmer people as well."

The DRVN Foreign Ministry demanded that the Lon Nol — Sirik Matak clique cease forthwith all slanders, acts of terror and plunder against Vietnamese residents, punish the authors of the acts of sabotage, release at once the Vietnamese residents arrested, compensate Vietnamese residents for their losses and guarantee for them all the rights reserved for other foreign residents in Cambodia.

VIET NAM RADIO EXPOSES COUP MAKERS' NEW SCHEME

"THE presence of the UN and the International Commission in Cambodia at this time when the makers of the coup d'état of March 18 are being strongly opposed by the Khmer people would be an encouragement to the Lon Nol - Matak clique in their attempt to suppress the Khmer people's patriotic struggle," *Voice of Viet Nam* Radio said on April 1, commenting on Lon Nol's disclosure at a press conference in Phnom Penh on March 30 that his junta had requested the Co-Chairmen of the 1954 Geneva Conference on Indochina to restore the activities of the International Commission and invited the UN Security Council to send an observers' team to Cambodia.

According to Lon Nol, the IC and the UN observers would be asked to investigate the so-called "Vietnamese communist aggression against Cambodia."

The radio described it a new ploy in the scheme of the US and the coup group to divert public attention, and distort and check the Khmer people's patriotic effort.

U.S. BRINGS WAR TO CAMBODIA

THE US Command in Saigon admitted on March 26 that US planes had bombed the Cambodian territory on March 24. *UPI* said this was the first US bombardment in Cambodia recognized by the US since the March 18 coup.

On March 28, *AFP* reported that Ronald Ziegler, the White House spokesman, said the US and Saigon troops had received orders to cross the Cambodian frontier in "hot pursuit" of the enemy. This was also the first time that the US government openly authorized US troops to cross the Cambodian border in violation of the territorial integrity of that country.

Though Ziegler declared that such a measure did not mean extension of the Viet Nam war, foreign observers concluded the contrary.

On April 1, the *Phnom Penh Radio* of the Lon Nol government announced that the "new Cambodian government anxious to preserve the neutrality of Cambodia" will oppose any authorization given by the US and Saigon commands to their troops to pursue the enemy on Cambodian territory. Was it, however, necessary for the Lon Nol Matak clique to make such a hypocritical statement to cover up its collusion with the US imperialists, observers wondered.

Then, from Key Biscayne (Florida), *Reuter* reported on March 28 that the US government had made clear its readiness to grant a military aid to the new Cambodian government if "the latter requested it." At a press conference held on March 30, in Phnom Penh, Lon Nol said he would ask for aid from foreign countries to cope with the situation.

The story of the abortive insurgency — published below — which occurred in Cambodia in 1959 will show our readers that the March 18 coup was but the continuation of a scheme hatched since long by the US imperialists to sabotage Cambodia's peace and independence.—Ed.

REMINISCENCES OF A RECENT PAST

The Daf Chuol Case

IN February 1959, near the Angkor temple in Siam Reap province, a rebellion was engineered by Daf Chuol and Cambodian reactionaries to torpedo the peace and neutrality of Cambodia for the benefit of the US imperialists.

Under the direct guidance of their American bosses, Daf Chuol, Son Ngoc Thanh, Sam Sary, A Seap worked out the following three-point plan:

1. Organize a legal opposition party aiming at attacking, and raising suspicion about Samdech Norodom Sihanouk's policy and sowing dissension in the ranks of the Cambodian people.

2. Create social confusion by means of kidnapping, blackmail and plunder.

3. Organize armed units within and without the country to prepare for the seizure of power.

The first point was carried out by Sam Sary (ex-Cambodian ambassador to London) with the publication of a newspaper and setting up the "Democratic Alliance" Party. The remaining two points were entrusted by the US imperialists to Son Ngoc Thanh, A Seap and chiefly Daf Chuol, the Royal Court envoy and commander of the Royal Army at Siem Reap, with the support of the US quislings in Bangkok and Saigon.

Daf Chuol was a former bandit and a political opportunist who by his machiavellianism got a high position and a huge fortune. In Siem Reap he lived like a "little king" riding roughshod over state law and customs. He maintained close contact with Ngo Trong Hieu, representative of the Ngo Dinh Diem administration, and such American brasshats as Admiral Harry Felt, Gen. Collins, Col. Landsdale, Admiral Hopwoon and Victor Matsui, an official at the US embassy. Daf Chuol sent Kem Chrey, his brother, to Thailand to enlist the support of the Bangkok authorities.

On US orders, Daf Chuol organized kidnappings, massacres, blackmails, gangsterism. His men, including Kim Nguon, a pander, were armed with knuckle-dusters, poniards, noiseless guns and pistols.

After the failure of Sam Sary's plot, Daf Chuol got into touch with the Saigon puppet administration which in January 1959, sent Ngo Trong Hieu to Angkor as a pilgrim to establish contacts with Daf Chuol for a rebellion. For this purpose, Daf Chuol received heavy wooden cases from Hongkong through the Air Viet Nam line, containing arms and ammunition, radio transmitters and a broadcasting station. On February 7, 1959, Daf Chuol received from Saigon two radio operators and six boxes of gold ingots (from 270 to 300 kilograms) to cover the expenditure of the adventure. The broadcasting station was built near Angkor Thom, 8 kilometres from Xiem Reap town. In the virgin forest of Sam Rong, Daf Chuol's brother managed to build shelters to billet about one thousand Son Ngoc Thanh's troops coming from Thailand.

But the rebellion was nipped in the bud by Samdech Norodom Sihanouk, the Royal Army and Cambodian people, and Daf Chuol died ignominiously as a traitor.

At a new conference held at Siem Reap on Feb. 28, 1959 attented by foreign correspondents and Cambodian newsmen, a radio transmitter, arms and ammunition (all US made), many other documents together with the two radio operators from Saigon were exhibited.

A U.S. Ambassador TO CAMBODIA

THE US ambassador to Cambodia, Mc Clintock, behaved throughout this period (1956 — *Ed.*) with an arrogance which will never be forgotten or forgiven in Cambodia. This absurd figure was a fervent disciple of Dulles' "brink of war" diplomacy and believed in "big stick" methods of putting policies across... As a symbol of this, he was notorious for appearing at official receptions, half an hour late, with a stick under his arm and a dog on a leash. In the Far East, at least, it is not considered very polite for a guest to introduce his dog into the home of a host. But Mc Clintock even attended the coronation of King Suramarit with his stick and dog and violated both diplomatic protocol and normal courtesies by leaving half an hour before the king. All of this, as with the diplomatic bricks dropped by John Foster Dulles, was calculated to impress on Cambodian leaders and especially Sihanouk, official US displeasure at Cambodian neutralism.

(...) Even the king, who is reputedly a benign monarch, interested mainly in his grandchildren and music — especially the clarinet — was enraged by Mc Clintock's crudities (...) Mc Clintock had called on the king to introduce a well-known American wild-life photographer, named Coolidge. "Our work is somewhat similar," said Mc Clintock, "His work is with four-legged Cambodians while mine is with two legged Cambodians. Ha! Ha! Ha!" The king was not amused, especially as a few days earlier it had come to his ears that the US Chargé d'Affaires Godley had angrily described Cambodians to a foreign correspondent as "monkeys who have only just come down from the tree tops."

(Excerpts from *Mekong Upstream* by Wilfred Burchett, Hanoi, Red River Publishing House, 1957)

WARM SUPPORT FOR VIET NAM REAFFIRMED AT STOCKHOLM CONFERENCE

AT its closing session on March 30, the Stockholm Conference on Viet Nam passed a political resolution of support to Viet Nam, a resolution on the increase of material support to Viet Nam and a resolution on the setting up of an International Commission for Investigation of US War Crimes in Viet Nam.

The Commission will be headquartered in Stockholm and many conferences will be convened successively in various countries. The first conference of this year is scheduled to be held in Montreal.

Besides these resolutions, the Conference also voted an action program for this year to push up other activities in support of Viet Nam.

The Conference issued a statement condemning the US war crimes in Viet Nam and approved an appeal for the launching of an "international campaign of collection of signatures" for the prompt, total and unconditional withdrawal of US troops and troops of the other countries in the US camp from South Viet Nam. The Conference also endorsed a resolution on a drive to send messages to Nixon to state to him the same demand.

The political resolution of the Conference reads as follows:

"The so-called 'Vietnamization' is nothing but a mystification, destined to fail. Nixon, far from fulfilling the promises of withdrawal that he was forced to make, is trying to keep US troops indefinitely in South Viet Nam.

"At the Paris Conference, the US government has demonstrated quite clearly its determination to balk any serious negotiations.

"Through more overt intervention in Laos, the US government has recently escalated its aggressive war in that country. It has perpetrated a coup d'état in Cambodia, following a tactical CIA pattern in order to extend the war. As a result the whole of Indochina risks becoming a war theatre that would threaten the peace and security of all the countries in South-East Asia.

"Events of the last weeks have shown even more clearly the dangers that ruling US circles have created for the peoples of the world by their policy of aggression, which is a direct result of the expansionist political military and economic policies of the US throughout the world and a part of a vast general strategy.

"The cause of the Vietnamese people is the cause of all peoples.

"Each people must recognize their own responsibility in this struggle which concerns themselves directly, and each inhabitant of the world must become aware that his or her action can help force the aggressor to withdraw.

"Nixon's intensification of the war in Viet Nam has been accompanied by increased governmental repression against the US peace forces, young and old, male and female, white and black. In order to continue their war of genocide against the Vietnamese people the US ruling circles have stepped up the use of racism as an ideological weapon at home and abroad. But in spite of the government crackdown, the peace movement in the United States has been intensifying its fight for genuine peace in South-East Asia, and for freedom and justice at home.

"The Conference is convinced that in order to reach a sound solution of the problem of real peace in Viet Nam, the United States government must satisfy the legitimate demands of the Vietnamese people as contained in the ten-point overall solution of the NFL and the PRG of the Republic of South Viet Nam, which call for the entire, immediate and unconditional withdrawal of troops of the US and its allies and establishment of a provisional coalition government to be entrusted with organizing free, democratic elections.

"In order to prevent extension of the war in Indochina, the United States must cease immediately and unconditionally its war of aggression and bombing of Laos, must put an end to the intervention in Cambodia and respect the latter's independence, neutrality and territorial integrity."

MEETING TO WELCOME VISITING PALESTINIAN DELEGATION

AN impressive meeting was held in Hanoi on March 31 by the Central Committee of the Viet Nam Fatherland Front, the Viet Nam Asian-African Solidarity Committee and the VNFF Hanoi Committee to welcome the delegation of the Palestine Liberation Organisation and the Al Fatah Liberation Movement led by Yasser Arafat, Chairman of the Organisation and official spokesman for the Al Fatah movement, on a friendship visit to the DRVN.

Speaking on the occasion, Hoang Quoc Viet, member of the Presidium of the Fatherland Front CC, condemned the US-manipulated Israeli reactionaries' war of aggression against, and illegal occupation of territories of, Palestine and other Arab countries.

He said: "The Vietnamese people who are engaged in a stubborn resistance against the US aggressors for national salvation follow with keen interest the struggle of their comrades-in-arms in Palestine and other Arab countries against the US imperialists and the Israeli aggressors to defend their national sovereignty. The Vietnamese people firmly support the legitimate position of the Palestinian people and other Arab peoples regarding the settlement of the Middle and Near East problem."

Speaking next, Yasser Arafat said: "We Palestinian revolutionaries come to you as revolutionaries to revolutionaries. We are bringing to you our deep revolutionary feelings because we are both standing in the same frontline and fighting against a common enemy—imperialism and colonialism.

"Our people regard," he continued, "your revolutionary struggle as a bright example blazing our path... Faced with an enemy far stronger in all fields: finance, troop strength and military technique..., our people always bear in mind your struggle and your difficulties. As Uncle Ho has said, nothing is more precious than independence and freedom. We are aware that a long and arduous effort is still before us but we will persevere and will go forward with confidence until complete victory."

Concluding the meeting, on behalf of the DRVN Government and the Vietnamese people, Vice-Premier Nguyen Duy Trinh expressed sincere thanks to the brotherly Palestinian people and other Arab peoples and the progressive people all over the world for their valuable support to the Vietnamese people's fight against US aggression.

"We are firmly convinced that Palestinian people, with their indomitable spirit and with warm support from the socialist countries and the progressive people all over the world, will gain complete victory in their just struggle," the Vice-Premier stressed.

Thailand's Hand in Laos War Now Admitted by Thai Official

ACCORDING to a report from Vientiane, in complicity with the reactionary Vientiane administration, the US imperialists recently sent one more Thai artillery unit to Laos. This unit is entirely equipped with 155mm pieces and stationed in Pak San area, southeast of Vientiane capital.

Meanwhile, on US orders, the Thanom-Praphas clique continues to draft youths of Lao origin in Northeast Thailand to serve as cannon-fodder for the US in Laos.

Earlier, on March 17 and 20, the US imperialists had sent a Thai artillery battalion and two Thai infantry battalions belonging to the "Queen's Cobra" and "Black Panther" divisions to Long Cheng region.

THE military intervention of the US and Thailand in Laos is an undeniable fact as proved by the recent depositions of a captured Thai mercenary, Outsam Angnet, a 23-year-old military personnel, captured in Sam Thong—Long Cheng in April 1969.

KPL reported that the captured Thai mercenary said he had worked for the US Military Aid Mission in Vientiane, and in January 1968 was dispatched to Long Cheng, a US military enclave, headquarters of the Vang Pao bandits. One year later, he was transferred to the US-puppet non-com military training school at Muong Tra near Long Cheng, and was taken prisoner in an attack by the Lao patriotic forces in April 1969.

Among the employees of the US Military Aid Mission in Laos, were 300 or so Thais put under the command of Thai officers. They came to Laos without need of visas. His own section was commanded by a US officer with the pseudonym of "Choo." Choo's assistant was a Thai officer called Sounthon Sensiliphan.

Besides, there were over 300 Thai intelligence and military personnel in Long Cheng put under the direct command of the bandit chief Vang Pao.

There were also some 40 Thai paratroopers. A group of Thailand officers led by Sooth and Thamin, had been working as military advisers to Vang Pao. In addition, there were about 30 other Thai officers operating in the the guise of "interpreters" who actually commanded commando groups in the liberated zone.

The US has built a signal centre in Long Cheng which kept in close touch with Washington. In addition to American "Green Berets," there were in Long Cheng at least 50 other Americans, including a dozen pilots, Outsam Angnet said.

He further revealed that all the Thai military personnel in Laos were put under the command of an office of the Central Intelligence Agency codenamed HQ 333 headquartered in Thailand. The HQ 333 also gave direct command to the Thailand paratroops unit and "interpreters," he said.

THAILAND'S Vice-Premier Praphas Charusathien admitted that Thai "volunteers" had been fighting in the ranks of the "Government" army in Laos, *UPI* reported from Bangkok on March 31. He emphasized that this was their own business which had nothing to do with the Thai government, *UPI* added.

Observers noted that this was the first time a high-ranking Thai official admitted the participation of Thai citizens in the Laos war, although the admission was still reluctant.

61st Plenary Session of Paris Conference on Viet Nam (April 2, 1970)

The U.S. Which Sows the Wind in All Indochina Will Reap a Revolutionary Whirl-Wind

Says DRVN Negotiator

AT the 61st session of the Paris Conference, Mr. Nguyen Minh Vy, on behalf of the delegation of the Democratic Republic of Viet Nam, analyzed the recent policies and acts of the Nixon administration which, he said, proved its reluctance to peacefully settle the Viet Nam problem and its search for a military victory and a "position of strength" to impose its terms on the Vietnamese people.

It is precisely for the purpose of gaining a military victory that the Nixon administration is giving priority to implementation of "Vietnamization," trying to drag out the war and the occupation of South Viet Nam by US troops, effecting piece-meal and drawn-out troop withdrawal to deceive public opinion and make it a trump card to exact from the Vietnamese people a ransom for the cessation of US aggression.

It is also with an eye to a military victory that the Nixon administration is escalating the war in Laos, turning that country into a second Viet Nam.

Mr. Nguyen Minh Vy also pointed out that the Nixon administration, in order to make good its setbacks in Viet Nam and seek a military victory, has created tension in Cambodia by engineering the March 18, 1970 coup d'état in Phnom Penh and is exerting itself to turn the Kingdom of Cambodia into another Viet Nam, and expand the war to the whole of Indochinese peninsula.

The DRVN negotiator said that the Nixon administration had miscalculated when it tried to secure a military victory and a "position of strength" in the hope of subduing the Vietnamese, Lao and Khmer peoples. The US aggressive policy will certainly meet with failure. If the Nixon administration stubbornly pursues it, it is certain that it will reap, from the wind it has sown in Viet Nam, Laos and Cambodia, the revolutionary whirl-wind of the three countries' peoples, whose unity in their fight against US aggression till final victory is stronger than ever.

U.S. RMK Firm Workers' Strike Claims Met

AFTER a seven day's strike, *AFP* reported, many demands of six thousand employees of the big American RMK enterprise in Saigon were met: wage-lift, working-time alteration, setting-up of a committee consisting of an equal number of representatives of employer and employees to attend to dismissals and litigations.

This strike, supported by many TU organizations affiliated to the (puppet) Viet Nam Confederation of Labour, had brought six construction sites of this US firm to a standstill.

LAO CAI

(Continued from page 3)

"My neighbours and me have jarfuls of these beans now," one of them said. "Formerly, the fortune of a family was assessed by the number of its opium trays. Now..."

"Now, it is estimated by the number of soya jars," another man said, adding: "Look at these bikes, and transistors, we've acquired them with the proceeds from the soya we sold to the State."

"With soya, we can improve our diet, by cooking a dozen savoury nourishing dishes..." another one struck in.

An old man who till then stood aloof, came up and joined in the conversation. He told of the past and present and concluded: "You see, we've started a new and prosperous life."

H. H.

The Tran Ngoc Chau Case

The Thieu Regime on Trial

TRAN Ngoc Chau, Saigon puppet MP, was sentenced on March 5, 1970 to ten years' hard labour. Three weeks later, on March 28, the "Supreme Court" rescinded this trial as "anti-constitutional." Whether Chau would be prosecuted again on April 28 next or not, this case has cast a bright light on the Saigon regime's true nature.

"FREEDOM" AND "DEMOCRACY"

ON Feb. 26, Thieu police broke into the National Assembly building where Chau was taking refuge, hoping to find there an additional guarantee for his "parliamentary immunity." The thugs snatched off his decoration, one of the highest orders of the puppet regime, as well as a copy of the "Constitution of the Second Republic" he was holding in his hand. They pinioned him and bludgeoned him on the head and neck (a wound was still seen on the trial day) and hurled him into a "Black Maria."

Three days before the trial, Chau's three lawyers withdrew their brief, thinking it useless as the "verdict had been decided by Court."

Their appointed substitute did the same for the court only granted him 24 hours to study the dossier of a case which might entail capital punishment. The fifth appointed counsel could not shirk his responsibility as he was an army officer having studied law.

Chau was thus prosecuted and sentenced. Saigon public opinion was not much astonished at such a practice of American-style "democracy." However, the puppet MPs who were still labouring under the delusion of their capacity as MPs were utterly upset.

Tran Minh Nhut, Chairman of the "National Assembly Commission of Justice," shouted: "There is not a shred of freedom and democracy left!" "Deputy" Phan Thong said: "The government regards the Assembly as a clod of clay!" Nguyen Trong Nhu, another "MP", added: "It is better to send the Assembly packing!" A deputy wrote on March 15 in the paper *Tin Sang* (Morning News): "I don't know whether I am laughing or crying, whether I'm conscious or unconscious, whether I love or hate in this world where the flower of democracy blooms at the points of bayonets, guns, bludgeons and pistols of the police!"

THE ULTERIOR MOTIVE OF THE TRIAL

CHAU was charged with "being caught red-handed" eight times in intelligence with the enemy. On March 6, *Radio Saigon* went to the length of announcing that "Chau had indulged in such activities from November 1965 to February 1969."

One wonders why having been "caught red-handed" since that time, Tran Ngoc Chau had to wait till 1970 to be indicted? Worse still, he was loaded with favours, as the first director of the "Plan for Revolutionary Development," an important link in the political chain of the puppet administration; then he was given a chance of entering the "Assembly" while all candidates suspected of sympathy with the resistance were ruthlessly discarded.

What is the ulterior motive of the move?

Chau was not the first victim of Thieu's machinations. Truong Dinh Dzu, Thieu's most dangerous rival at the 1967 presidential elections, has been jailed at Poulo Condore since November 9, 1968. Au Truong Thanh, Thieu Ky's ex-Minister of Economy and Finances, and Ho Thong Minh, Bao Dai's Minister of Defence and Ngo Dinh Diem's Foreign Minister, were thrown in jail on February 21, 1968, after Dzu's arrest. Then in last November Thieu summoned before the military court and arraigned for "intelligence with the enemy" forty people including high-ranking officials and field officers such as Huynh Van Trong, the Presidency's Adviser for Information and Security, and Le Huy Thuy, Nguyen Si Hung and Le Trung Hau, top officials of the "Open Arms" Ministry.

"Vice-President" Nguyen Cao Ky is also on Thieu's black list. The first trick played on Ky was the sacking on May 18, 1968 of "Prime Minister" Nguyen Van Loc. Ky's staunch supporter. The second trick was the dismissal on May 29, 1968 of Nguyen Bao Tri, "Minister of Pacification," Linh Quang Vien, "Minister of the Interior," Nguyen Xuan Phong, "Open Arms Minister," and Pho Ba Long, "Minister of Labour." Four days later, it was touch and go with Nguyen Cao Ky when a chopper raided a building in Saigon's 5th district where a meeting, to be attended by Ky, was in session, inflicting eleven casualties among the field officers. On June 8, 1969, Nguyen Ngoc Loan, the sanguinary chief of the Saigon police, as well as two of the four army corps commanders were relieved of their posts. A week later, Thieu removed eight of the nine police superintendents in Saigon. Worth mentioning is that all these men were known as Ky's followers; that is why Ky publicly declared on May 22, 1968: "There is not a shadow of a doubt that there exist a gang of slaves among our leaders. If they must be wiped out, we shall roll up our sleeves. I am ready to make the gun give tongue and bloodshed to topple everything." On June 18, 1968, he said: "We must settle the matter for good by a life-and-death battle."

All those who do not see eye to eye with Thieu, who rail at him or stand in his way to dictatorship, are threatened, sooner or later, with prosecution for "intelligence with the enemy" or with the sack with liquidation by "mistake" by his hired killers. Tran Ngoc Chau is no exception to that jungle law. The reason for his condemnation was given on Feb. 26, 1970 by the *International Herald Tribune*: "Not a few American officials began to think of him as a prospective Prime Minister or President."

And that is where the Saigon quislings stand. It is with the backing of that pack of wolves which are tearing one another to shreds that Nixon pursues his "Vietnamization" policy. Its fate is left in no doubt.

Military Operations

PLAF SIMULTANEOUS NIGHT ATTACKS ON 350 ENEMY TARGETS (March 31 - April 2)

GIAI PHONG Press Agency and the Western agencies reported that from March 31 to April 2, 1970, the PLAF artillery and infantry nightly hammered at over 350 enemy bases and positions in more than 20 cities, provincial and district capitals.

According to preliminary reports:

— **Da Nang** airbase and the naval bases at **Chu Lai, Cam Ranh** and **Qui Nhon** were bombarded and suffered heavy losses.

— 12 army corps, division and brigade HQs were stormed including those of the First Cav., the US 25th Division and Special Forces at **Nha Trang,** and of the puppet 5th and 25th Divisions.

— The artillery positions of the First Cav. of Americal Division and the puppet First Army Corps came also under fire.

— The **Dalat** military academy and psychowar training centre and the Chi Lang training centre in **Chau Doc** province suffered heavy damage.

— Enemy posts erected on 70 km along **Highway No 4** were assaulted.

The US Command spokesman admitted that at least more than 600 GIs and puppet troops had been killed, including Brig. Gen. William R. Bond, or wounded.

A PRG REPRESENTATION IN CENTRAL TRUNG BO ESTABLISHED

A Representation of the Provisional Revolutionary Government of the Republic of South Viet Nam was established in Central Trung Bo, *GPA* reported. It consisted of a chairman, Mr Truong Cong Thuan, three vice-chairmen and five members.

It was introduced to the area people's delegates at a ceremony held on March 22, 1970 who pledged close unity with the PRG and its Representation in Central Trung Bo in the anti-US aggression struggle for national salvation until final victory.

Young women guerillas in South Viet Nam

Fifth US General Killed in Viet Nam

WITH the recent death of Brig. Gen. **Bond,** the US has lost five generals killed and many others wounded in Viet Nam. The first four generals killed are:

Maj. Gen. **William Crumm,** of the USAF, in July 1967.

Maj. Gen. **Bruno Hochmuth,** commanding the US 3rd Marine Division, on Nov. 14, 1968.

Maj. Gen. **Robert F. Worley,** deputy commander of the US Air Force in South Viet Nam, on July 23, 1968.

Maj. Gen. **Keith L. Ware,** commanding the US First Infantry Division, on Sept. 13, 1968.

35,000 South Viet Nam Students on Strike

ON April 1, the strike entered its tenth day. This wave of protest is a fresh blow at the Thieu regime the dictatorial character of which is becoming more and more transparent. Here below is a chronology of the events:

March 11: The police arrested Huynh Tan Man, acting president of the Students' General Association (SGA) and president of the Saigon Medicine Students' Association, along with 31 other students.

March 12: The SGA protested against these arrests, demanded the release of the detained and threatened a general strike.

March 13: An SGA delegation met the puppet authorities to demand satisfaction of its claims. A meeting with newsmen and delegates from other schools was called by the "Committee of Struggle" of the Cao Thang Technical School students, several of them having been apprehended by the police on the 11th.

March 14: The SGA secretary general reiterated the students' claims.

March 16: An emergency meeting was held by the SGA during which was passed a strong protest against the puppets' fascist measures against the students until the latter's claims were satisfied.

March 21: On the authorities' refusal to comply with their revendications, the medicine students called a strike for the 23rd.

March 23: As the puppets persisted in their refusal, 6,000 medics went on strike, supported by their mates in the Sciences, Pedagogy, Agriculture and Letters Faculties.

March 25: The number of strikers rose to 30,000. The SGA again sent a letter to the puppet authorities demanding the release of the 40 arrested students including Huynh Tan Man. The Association of Parents and Students' Tutors, the Council of Professors and the Dean of the Sciences Faculty sided with the strikers.

March 26: The protesters now numbered 33,000. Two students' leaders began a three-day hunger-strike. The Committee of Struggle decided to carry it on until April 2 (date of the opening of the Congress of Saigon Faculties and Colleges students) and to start a hunger-strike in front of the "National Assembly" to be followed by others.

March 27: The Phu Tho Technical School students joined the strikers. Twenty volunteered for the hunger-strike. The Buddhist circles sent a delegation to visit their two leaders. In the afternoon, the Law students joined in the action.

March 28: The puppet authorities held a press conference to explain their acts. The students demanded a public confrontation of policemen with Huynh Tan Man at this conference. As the puppets refused, in the afternoon the students convened an emergency meeting to reaffirm their determination to keep up the struggle until the release of their fellow-students.

March 29: The SGA announced that the hunger-strike of the two students' leaders had ended and that it would be followed the next day by another one of 17 strikers representing the 17 Saigon faculties and colleges. The police cordoned off the premises of the "National Assembly" with barbed-wire.

March 30: The police arrested the 12 hunger-strikers in front of the "National Assembly." The students convened an emergency meeting. The Committee of Struggle sent a warning to Thieu. The Buddhist circles set up a committee of support to the students' struggle. The scheduled meeting between the students' representatives and the puppet Vice-Minister of Public Education was cancelled.

March 31: Second day of the hunger-strike by 16 students on the flight of steps of the "National Assembly" — ninth day of the Saigon students' general strike. Despite the police cordon and the barbed-wire entanglements, many volunteers for the hunger-strike tried to join their mates in front of the "National Assembly": ten among them succeeded while three others were arrested. The hunger-strikers were now 26.

April 1: The students of the Saigon Van Hanh Buddhist University and their comrades at the Can Tho University went on strike. These of Hue University sent a message of support to their counterparts in Saigon and announced their readiness to back them with a strike. At the An Quang pagoda (Saigon), a committee of support to the strikers was set up with Professor Ly Chanh Trung at its head.